

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Brett Webb et al	Examiner:	Jamisue A. Webb
Serial No.:	09/825,592	Group Art Unit:	3629
Filed:	April 3, 2001	Docket No.:	10003933-1
Title:	WEBSITE FOR HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY AND MAINTENANCE WITH REMINDER SYSTEM AND METHOD		

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**DECLARATION OF STEVEN E. DICKE AND PAUL S. GRUNZWEIG**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Dear Sir/Madam:

This Declaration is submitted in support of the Declaration of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 submitted to establish conception of the subject matter of the present patent application prior to the effective reference date of February 13, 2001 of Singer U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0111846 coupled with due diligence from prior to the effective reference date to the filing date of April 3, 2001 of the present patent application (i.e., constructive reduction to practice).

The persons making this Declaration are patent attorneys Steven E. Dicke and Paul S. Grunzweig of Dicke, Billig & Czaja. We state as follows:

On or after September 7, 2000, Steven E. Dicke received a Letter enclosing HP Invention Disclosure No. 10003933-1 from HP Patent Attorney-Outsourcing Manager Steven R. Ormiston (see Attachment 1, three pages). Upon receiving this invention disclosure, it was placed in a queue of other patent applications to be prepared on behalf of HP.

During the period between approximately September 2000 and April 2001, we had a reasonable backlog of unrelated cases on which we worked reasonably hard and carried out expeditiously. Our practice was to attend to the preparation of patent applications having bar dates first and attend to the preparation of the remaining patent applications (including the present patent application) generally in the chronological order in which they were received.

On September 28, 2000, Steven E. Dicke sent a letter to patent attorney Paul S. Grunzweig requesting that he prepare a patent application based on this disclosure referenced by our file number H302.156.101, as well as other disclosures (see Attachment 2).

Attachment 3 is a copy of billing invoice detailing activities of patent attorneys Paul S. Grunzweig and Steven E. Dicke for preparation of the present patent application for HP

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Brett Webb et al

Serial No.: 09/825,592

Filed: April 3, 2001

Docket No.: 10003933-1

Title: WEBSITE FOR HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY AND MAINTENANCE WITH REMINDER SYSTEM  
AND METHOD

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Invention Disclosure 10003933-1, covering a time period extending throughout January 2001. During January 2001, Paul S. Grunzweig reviewed the information from, and discussed the invention disclosure with, the inventor Brett Webb and drafted and prepared the present patent application.

Attachment 4 (1 page) includes an electronic mail communication dated January 31, 2001 from Paul S. Grunzweig to Steven E. Dicke regarding a draft patent application for file H302.156.101 (Home Maintenance Web Site).

Attachment 5 (2 pages) includes a facsimile cover page, with a fax confirmation report, dated February 13, 2001 from Steven E. Dicke to Steve Ormiston regarding drawings for a draft patent application regarding HP Invention Disclosure 10003933-1 (H302.156.101).

Attachment 6 (1 page) includes a Letter sent on March 6, 2001 by patent attorney Steven E. Dicke to Ms. Dianna Baker of Hewlett-Packard regarding patent application documents for filing a patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure 10003933-1 (H302.156.101).

As a person signing below, I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name: Steven E. Dicke  
Steven E. Dicke

Date: January 5, 2006

Name: Paul Grunzweig  
Paul S. Grunzweig

Date: 1-5-06

**Hewlett-Packard Company**

Legal Department  
11307 Chinden Boulevard MS 314  
Boise, Idaho 83714  
Fax: 208/396-3958



**HEWLETT  
PACKARD**

September 7, 2000

Steven E. Dicke, Esq.  
DICKE BILLIG & CZAJA PA  
701 Building  
710 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 1250  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Re: Preparation and Filing of Patent Application  
Pursuant to Outside Counsel Procedures dated October 15, 1999  
HP Invention Disclosure PD No. 10003933-1  
Entitled: "Website That Would Allow Consumer To Enter A Household Inventory Of  
Items That Require Maintenance, Repair And Replacement"  
Inventor(s): Brett M. Webb, et al.  
**HP Required Receipt Date: February 24, 2001**

Dear Steve:

We would like you to provide us with a quote of the cost for your firm to prepare a US patent application based on the HP invention disclosure identified above, a copy of which is enclosed. Your quote should be based on preparing and supplying us with the completed application, formal drawings, European claims and abstract, and a disk containing the electronic file for the application including European claims and abstract all to be received by the HP required receipt date stated above.

Your quote should be submitted on the enclosed Request for Quote And Engagement Letter Agreement. If your quote is accepted, we will return a fully executed copy of the Agreement to you for your records. **The Agreement will not be binding on you or on HP until signed by HP's authorized representative.**

**If this Agreement is not signed and returned to HP, any bills submitted by you cannot be paid.**

Thank you for your assistance in reviewing the invention disclosure. If your review indicates a possible conflict for your firm, you should advise us within one week of receipt of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

*Yuonne Bailey for Steven R. Ormiston*

Steven R. Ormiston  
Patent Attorney - Outsourcing Manager

SRO/TW

Enc: Invention Disclosure  
Request for Quote/Agreement

**Attachment 1**



## INVENTION DISCLOSURE

Company Confidential: The information contained in this document is COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL and may not be disclosed to others without prior authorization.

PDNO

10003933

Attorney

L6M

Date Received:

5-11-2000

Please submit this disclosure to the HP Legal Department as soon as possible. No patent protection is possible until a patent application is authorized, prepared and submitted to the Government.

Descriptive title of invention: Website that would allow consumer to enter a household inventory of items that require maintenance, repair, & replacement

Name of project:

Product name or number:

The invention is described in my lab book # 4233 or in the following other records: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the invention been built or tested? No ☒ Yes ☐ Date built or tested: \_\_\_\_\_

Was a description of the invention published or are you planning to publish? No ☒ Yes ☐

Date and location of any actual or proposed publication of the invention: \_\_\_\_\_

Was a product including the invention shown, announced or sold? No ☒ Yes ☐ Date and location of any actual or proposed announcement, offer to sell or sale of the product: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and date of anyone outside HP to whom invention will be or has been disclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If any will occur within three months, please call your IP attorney or the Legal Department at 1-857-2542 or 415-857-2542.

Government Contract: \_\_\_\_\_ Was this invention made under a government contract? No ☒ Yes ☐

Government agency and contract number: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Invention: Please preserve all records of the invention and attach additional pages giving the following:  
Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es)

- Problems solved by the invention.
- Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available attach copies of relevant technical articles or patents).
- Description of the construction and operation of the invention (include appropriate schematic, block and timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; etc.).
- Advantages of the invention over what has been done before.

Signature of Inventor(s): PLEASE SEE BACK OF FORM FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INVENTOR INFORMATION.

I (we) this date 5/3/00 submit this invention disclosure pursuant to my(our) employment agreement.

Emp. Number	Name	Signature	Telex #	Mail Stop	Entity Name and Lab Name
<del>524735</del>	<del>Brett M. Webb</del>	<del>[Signature]</del>	<del>6-6190</del>	<del>272</del>	<del>4600 - LCS</del>
524735	Brett M. Webb	[Signature]	6-6190	272	4600 - LCS
352366	David L. Lamm	[Signature]	6-5007	272	4600 - LCS

If more than three inventors, please sign on an additional disclosure form and attach to this page.  
Please try to obtain the signature of the person(s) to whom the invention was first disclosed.

Signature of Witness(es):

The invention was first explained to and understood by me(us): 3 MAY 2000

BRIAN D. PEAVEY

Full Name

Signature

3 May 2000

Date of signature

Full Name

Signature

Date of signature

Page 1 of \_\_\_\_\_

www.homemaintain.com - Web site that would allow consumer to enter a household inventory of appliances, building material, or any other items that require maintenance, repair, and replacement.  
Brett Webb & David Lanning LCS R&D Lab  
May 3, 2000

#### Brief Description:

This web site would containing the following:

1. This web site would allow the consumer to enter an itemized list of household and house related information that will require maintenance, repair, and replacement. For example, all appliances (make, model), structure information (roof, siding), floor information (carpet (manufacture, grade), linoleum), paint (brand, type), lighting, etc.
2. With the above information, this database or inventory could be used to provide the consumer with a maintenance calendar. The consumer could print the calendar and use it to ensure regular maintenance. If the consumer would prefer, an email reminder could be sent as an alternate to the calendar, or both could be used.
  - a. The maintenance calendar/email would not only contain the helpful reminder; it would also contain a job ticket and an online shopping link. The job ticket would tell the user the part(s) needed, tools needed, time expected, and "how to" instructions and web links for further information. The online shopping link would link customers to URL's containing parts and prices from a variety of retail partners (Homebase, Home Depot, Sears, etc). For example, a customer might get a monthly reminder to change the furnace air filter, time it would take for the particular furnace, parts required, and links to air filters (one at a time or bulk) the consumer could purchase online.
3. The web site would also be a source for problem solving. If the consumer has a problem with an item, he or she would be able to get information about how to fix the problem if the problem is common and well known. Again, a job ticket would be made with part(s) needed, tools needed, time expected, "how to" instructions, and links for online shopping. If the problem is not common, it would be reported to the manufacturer. The web site would then email the manufacture's comments/suggestions to the consumer.
4. The web site would also act as a "Consumer Reports" with the knowledge of the inventory and reported problems from the consumer. This would allow the web site to offer the consumer information on brands, life expectancy, problems, maintenance, etc., for their next purchase. Online shopping would again be offered so the consumer could look for a particular item and see prices, warranties, etc.
5. Working with the manufacturers, the web site would also use the inventory to email consumers about recalls and warnings and information about what the consumer should do next.
6. Life expectancy reminders would also be sent by email or on the calendar. For example, an email such as "it is time to get a new roof or have current roof inspected" would help consumers stay on top of a products life cycle.
7. Partnering with manufacturers and retail stores would generate the web sites profits. Manufactures would get information about their products in order to make better products. Retailers would access consumers who need to buy maintenance, repair, tools, and new products.
8. Expansion possibilities – not only the house could be put into the inventory. It could be expanded to automobiles.

# DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

Patent • Trademark • Copyright  
ATTORNEYS

Suite 1250 • 701 Building • 701 Fourth Avenue South • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415  
Telephone: (612) 573-2000 Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Steven E. Dicke  
Direct Dial: (612) 573-2002

September 28, 2000

Paul Grunzweig, Esq.  
15254 Curtis Avenue NW  
Monticello, MN 55362

VIA COURIER

Hello Paul,

Attached are five Hewlett-Packard Invention Disclosures. I have enclosed a hard copy and an electronic copy of two Hewlett-Packard Patent Applications to use as templates, as well as sample copies of published e-commerce patents. The filing deadlines for these applications are as follows:

[REDACTED] -	Due November 12, 2000
[REDACTED] -	Due November 12, 2000
[REDACTED] -	Due February 15, 2001
H302.156.101 -	Due February 24, 2001
[REDACTED] -	Due February 24, 2001

If you need any further information in order to prepare these applications you may contact the inventors directly. Their contact information can be found in the invention disclosure forms. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Regards,



Steven E. Dicke

SED:ced

Enclosures

# DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC

Patent • Trademark • Copyright  
ATTORNEYS

Fifth Street Towers • 100 South Fifth Street • Suite 2250 • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Telephone: (612) 573-2000 Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Page: 1  
02/01/2001

Hewlett-Packard Company  
Financial Administrator - PMHP  
Legal Dept. M/S 1068  
HP Development Co, LP, PO Box 10301  
Palo Alto CA 94303-0890  
U.S.A.

Attn: Steve Ormiston

Website that would allow consumer...  
10003933-1

## Fees

			Rate	Hours	
01/23/2001	PSG	Preparation of patent application drawings and claims.			
01/24/2001	PSG	Preparation of claims.			
	PSG	Prepare/revise claims and drawings.			
01/25/2001	PSG	Prepare/revise claims.			
	PSG	Prepare/revise claims.			
01/26/2001	PSG	Prepare/revise claims.			
01/27/2001	PSG	Prepare/revise patent application detailed description.			
01/29/2001	SED	Prepare/revise patent application; Discussions with P. Grunzweig;			
		Fax to Patent Draftsperson; Discussion with Patent Draftsperson.			
	PSG	Prepare/revise detailed description.			
01/30/2001	SED	Prepare/revise patent application.			
	PSG	Prepare/revise detailed description.			
	PSG	Prepare/revise patent application.			
01/31/2001	PSG	Prepare/revise patent application including detailed description and claims.			
	PSG	Preparation of EP Claims and Abstract.			
	PAR	Paralegal services in collecting complete file information; entering client information into Case Master database; creating file wrapper; in reviewing and updating request for quote; in updating HP status report; in docketing pertinent docket dates.			
	PAR	Paralegal services in preparation of Assignment document; in preparation of Declaration; in forwarding documents for execution; in reviewing application and drawings for accuracy; in preparation of transmittal and calculation of fees; in filing application and related documents at U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; in completion of HP checklist; in updating Request for Quote; in updating docket dates; in updating CaseMaster re: filing of documents; in reporting matter to client.			

Attachment 3

Hewlett-Packard Company

Page: 2  
02/01/2001

Website that would allow consumer...  
10003933-1

Rate Hours

PAR

Paralegal services in preparation of Information Disclosure Statement; in preparation of PTO-1449 form; in compilation of related art; in preparation of transmittal sheet; in filing documents at U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; in updating CaseMaster re: filing of documents; in reporting matter to client.

For Current Services Rendered

Expenses

09/12/2000  
09/28/2000  
10/25/2000  
01/24/2001

Photocopy Charges  
Photocopy Charges  
Long Distance Phone Charges  
Photocopy Charges  
Total Expenses

Advances

01/31/2001

ILLUSTRATING FEES - FORMAL PATENT DRAWINGS

Total Advances

Total Current Work

Balance Due

Task Code Recapitulation

Fees

Expenses

Terms: Balance Due upon Receipt

F.I.N. [REDACTED]

Questions? [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]



**From:** Paul grunzweig  
**To:** sdicke@dbclaw  
**Date:** 1/31/01 4:09PM  
**Subject:** H302.156.101 Home Maintenance Web Site

I have attached a draft patent application for the above case (inventor Brett Webb). I will be faxing you the drawings shortly. Thanks, Paul G.

# DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

Patent • Trademark • Copyright • Attorneys

Suite 1250 • 701 Building • 701 Fourth Avenue South • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Telephone (612) 573-2000

Facsimile (612) 573-2005

## FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Date: 2/13/01

No. of pages: 9 (including this page)

To: Steve Orniston

Company: HP

Your Ref.: HP10003933-1

Fax No.: 208. 396. 3958

Phone No.:

From: Steve Dicke

Re: Patent Application  
Drawing 5

Our Ref.: H302.156.101

Phone No.:

Documents being sent:

Message:

Please notify us at 612-573-2000 if all pages are not received.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	0540	
CONNECTION TEL		208 396 3958
SUBADDRESS		
CONNECTION ID		
ST. TIME	02/13 16:39	
USAGE T	02'23	
PGS. SENT	9	
RESULT	OK	

# DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

**Patent • Trademark • Copyright  
ATTORNEYS**

Suite 1250 • 701 Building • 701 Fourth Avenue South • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415  
Telephone: (612) 573-2000 Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Steven E. Dicke  
Direct Dial: (612) 573-2002

March 6, 2001

Ms. Dianna Baker  
Legal Administrator  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Legal Department, M/S 314  
11311 Chinden Boulevard  
Boise, ID 83714

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

RE: U.S. Patent Application for:  
**WEBSITE FOR HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY AND MAINTENANCE WITH  
REMINDER SYSTEM AND METHOD**  
HP File No: 10003933-1  
DBC File No.: H302.156.101

Dear Dianna:

Please find enclosed the following U.S. Patent Documents suitable for filing with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the above-referenced patent application:

- Hard copy of Patent Application;
- Electronic copy of Patent Application on diskette;
- Formal drawings;
- Hard copy of claims/abstract with reference numerals for foreign filing;
- Electronic copy of claims/abstract with reference numerals for foreign filing on diskette;
- Form PTO-1449; and  
Eleven (11) cited references.

This patent application has been reviewed by the inventor(s) and Steve Ormiston and approved for filing. Enclosed are Assignment and Declaration and Power of Attorney documents for inventor signature. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (612) 573-2002.

Regards,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

  
Steven E. Dicke

SED:lj  
Enclosures

**Attachment 6**

# DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

Patent • Trademark • Copyright • Attorneys

Suite 1250 • 701 Building • 701 Fourth Avenue South • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Telephone (612) 573-2000

Facsimile (612) 573-2005

## FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Date: February 6, 2001

No. of pages: 36 (including this page)

To: Brett Webb

Company: Hewlett-Packard

Your Ref.: 10003933-1

Fax No.: 208.396.7768

Phone No.: 208.396.6190

From: Paul Grunzweig

Re: Draft Application

Our Ref.: H302.156.101

Phone No.: 612.878.4373

Documents being sent: Draft Application & Drawings

Message: Please call me Wednesday (if possible) with comments.

Thank you,

Paul

Please notify us at 612-573-2000 if all pages are not received.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS ATTORNEY-PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	0478
CONNECTION TEL	
SUBADDRESS	
CONNECTION ID	
ST. TIME	02/06 08:26
USAGE T	13'43
PGS. SENT	36
RESULT	OK



HEWLETT  
PACKARD

# INVENTION DISCLOSURE

Company Confidential: The information contained in this document is COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL and may not be disclosed to others without prior authorization.

PDNO

10003933

Attorney

L6M

Date Received:

5-11-2000

Please submit this disclosure to the HP Legal Department as soon as possible. No patent protection is possible until a patent application is authorized, prepared and submitted to the Government.

Descriptive title of invention: Website that would allow consumer to enter a household inventory of items that require maintenance, repair, & replacement

Name of project:

Product name or number:

The invention is described in my lab book # 4233 or in the following other records: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the invention been built or tested? No ☒ Yes ☐ Date built or tested: \_\_\_\_\_

Was a description of the invention published or are you planning to publish? No ☒ Yes ☐

Date and location of any actual or proposed publication of the invention: \_\_\_\_\_

Was a product including the invention shown, announced or sold? No ☒ Yes ☐ Date and location of any actual or proposed announcement, offer to sell or sale of the product: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and date of anyone outside HP to whom invention will be or has been disclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If any will occur within three months, please call your IP attorney or the Legal Department at 1-857-2542 or 415-857-2542.

Government Contract: Was this invention made under a government contract? No ☒ Yes ☐

Government agency and contract number: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Invention: Please preserve all records of the invention and attach additional pages giving the following:  
Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es)

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- Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available attach copies of relevant technical articles or patents).
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- Advantages of the invention over what has been done before.

Signature of Inventor(s): PLEASE SEE BACK OF FORM FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INVENTOR INFORMATION.

I (we) this date 5/3/2000 submit this invention disclosure pursuant to my(our) employment agreement.

Emp. Number	Name	Signature	Telex #	Mail Stop	Entity Name and Lab Name
<del>524735</del>	<del>Brett M Webb</del>	<del>[Signature]</del>	<del>6-6190</del>	<del>272</del>	<del>4600 - LCS</del>
524735	Brett M Webb	[Signature]	6-6190	272	4600 - LCS
352366	David L. Lanning	[Signature]	6-5007	272	4600 - LCS

If more than three inventors, please sign on an additional disclosure form and attach to this page.  
Please try to obtain the signature of the person(s) to whom the invention was first disclosed.

Signature of Witness(es):

The invention was first explained to and understood by me(us): 3 MAY 2000

BRIAN D. PEAVEY

[Signature]

3 May 2000

Date of signature

Full Name

Signature

Date of signature

Exhibit A

Page 1 of

www.homenmaintain.com - Web site that would allow consumer to enter a household inventory of appliances, building material, or any other items that require maintenance, repair, and replacement.  
Brett Webb & David Lanning LCS R&D Lab  
May 3, 2000

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2. With the above information, this database or inventory could be used to provide the consumer with a maintenance calendar. The consumer could print the calendar and use it to ensure regular maintenance. If the consumer would prefer, an email reminder could be sent as an alternate to the calendar, or both could be used.
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4. The web site would also act as a "Consumer Reports" with the knowledge of the inventory and reported problems from the consumer. This would allow the web site to offer the consumer information on brands, life expectancy, problems, maintenance, etc., for their next purchase. Online shopping would again be offered so the consumer could look for a particular item and see prices, warranties, etc.
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6. Life expectancy reminders would also be sent by email or on the calendar. For example, an email such as "it is time to get a new roof or have current roof inspected" would help consumers stay on top of a products life cycle.
7. Partnering with manufacturers and retail stores would generate the web sites profits. Manufactures would get information about their products in order to make better products. Retailers would access consumers who need to buy maintenance, repair, tools, and new products.
8. Expansion possibilities - not only the house could be put into the inventory. It could be expanded to automobiles.



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